

Morris Town 27 July 1877

my dear Harry

I have received by the post your two letters  
of the 14<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> inst. I agree with you that the  
loss of Fort Mifflin is one of the severest blows we  
have met with during this War it is not the most  
severe - I saw and see all the ill consequences  
arising from so disastrous an event - tho'  
I have had an opportunity of seeing and examining  
all the papers with respect to the evacuation I do  
not yet feel able to give my opinion to you  
As dangerous to trust them in paper - the  
act of finding fault is open to a great degree.  
Time will give the public every satisfaction that  
can be expected. The loss of the Fort which  
I am afraid is but too true is a very changing  
circumstance - War is a game of  
Chance and those who will play at it must  
inevitably lose sometimes - we are engaged  
in a contest pregnant with the most infinite  
consequences to America and the World it is  
it if we do not are not sometimes brought up  
with a better - Thus much I am faithfully



convinced that King's men & the force of Indians and  
Canadians being and which do not amount to more  
than 6000 effective — after deducting the Garrison, which  
he must leave at Fort George and the other  
posts — he must have a very contemptible force to  
penetrate the County — our Continental Line will  
be equal to it — But my ~~Continentals~~ Countrymen of  
New-England beware — suffer not yourselves to be  
deceived by reasoning upon probabilities — Your enemies  
as people will be struck at — awake them, ~~every~~ your  
fellow — Therefore the least opportunity imagine  
to anticipate Mr King's if he attempts to penetrate  
a respectable body of troops of 6000 militia (under  
General Lincoln who is gone up for that purpose)  
stationed on what are commonly called the Grants and  
I mean as to be a terror to Mr K. and the Continentals  
among in the part on King's River. assisted  
by the militia and who is gone up, would in  
my opinion dispose of it — and effectually  
restrain him from penetrating the Country either  
by King's River or the Grants into New York  
— if he should be so hardy he would be harassed by  
both parties and crushed between two ~~the~~ the  
of two armies each of which would be equal to  
his whole force and which would be



wherever they proceed — I hang it down as a  
warning — that our B. must be vigilant on the  
Consequences will be infinitely horrid — It England  
can very well afford 10000 militia when fighting  
for the existence — it may the incurrence by  
but all the calamities which human nature has ex-  
perienced will pale that of the sufferings of P.B. —  
Conquer her — At Mr. Lane said for Lady  
Hook, keeping his destination a most profound secret  
— he has left Clinton with about 3000 troops  
British and foreign troops on New York and the  
Island — I assure you my Harry Lane says  
that he did not venture up the N. River — which  
would be a ruin to blow at our vitals — the  
consequence of his success there would be infinitely  
horrid — let him go where he may either to the  
eastward or southward it can not be so dangerous  
as from a variety of circumstances it has been  
thought that he intends to endeavor to seize Philadel-  
phia without fighting but I think we shall overpower  
him we are now four days nearer than  
there — we shall go as far as Trenton on  
the Delaware fresh by that time to have



fullest evidence that he is off the ship - were I to  
rely upon Mr. Jones but indeed I think it  
he might have to go up the N. River - if he thought it  
was not imprudent in the next place to go to New  
England - if he goes to the Southward he leaves  
the whole force of Maryland to fall on Mr.  
W. but decides it if he goes to New York or  
Boston - we intercept a letter of his to Genl  
Burrage written at his own house - dated N York  
20th July informing that the expedition up the N.R.  
was given up for one to Boston which he expected to  
leave and rapidly extend himself into the Country  
but that he was "making demonstrations to the  
Southward" - from a family correspondence it is  
suggested that he intended that letter should be  
delivered into our hands - (you will now  
perceive the fear of this letter to be made public being  
known but how far it would be expedient to  
sincerely and persistently to prosecute) but he  
is your guard - if he should go to New York  
I have just ~~sent by the Genl~~ ordered to be  
sent to make sure previous preparations in  
my department - my Brother is not  
in line. Grant, being if for some summer  
reasons I shall keep with myself



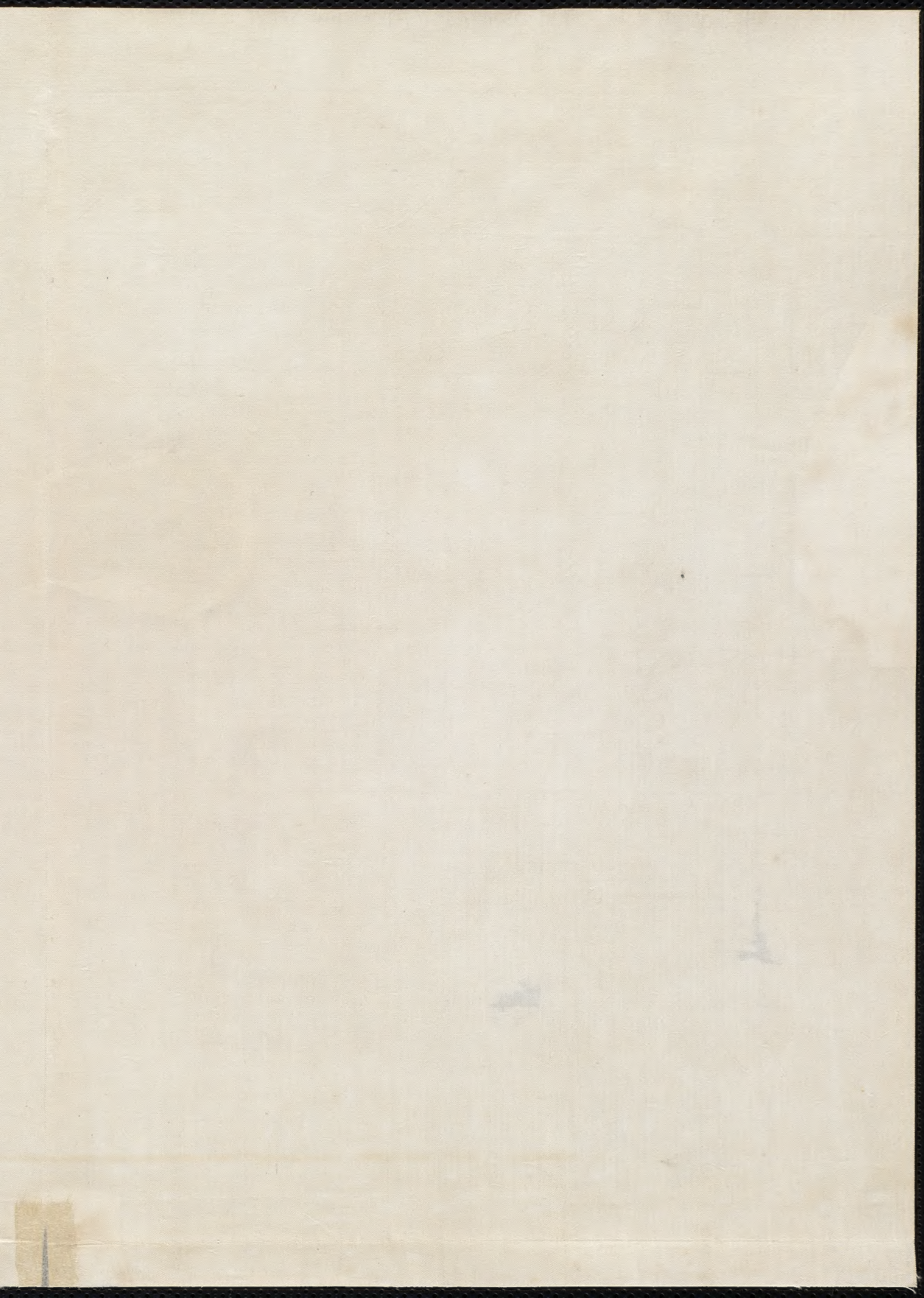
I am much obliged to you for your friendly  
advice with respect to the sale of the Phactos  
and had the same sentiments before I left the  
Town — I have written to my boy in the  
Subject and from the manner in which I  
have written I have no doubt that he will  
comply — ~~so~~ so that if you ~~shall~~ be called  
upon for ~~that~~ more money towards the ship  
at Newbury you will apply this money  
— but if Mr. M. should decline to part with  
the Phactos. I will send you the money  
upon the first notice and by the first conveyance

— I am from thinking my dear Harry that  
it is more of your business, I consider it  
as the most evident proof of your disinterested  
friendship — which I pray may never  
be interrupted — anathema my ~~concerns~~  
and send them westward — God bless you  
Your ~~adieu~~ my dear friend  
Wm. —











Letter from my  
Friend H. B.

July 27. 1779

Colonel Harry Jackson  
Dofloro

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